Torture/Harassment of Indian Na-tional in Kuwait

185. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of various recent press reports stating that Indian nationals in Kuwait, specially domestic staff are harassed and tortured and such cases are hushed up; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of Indian Mission in Kuwait and what remedical steps Government have taken to avoide recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Since July 1; 1991; 280 such cases; mostly pertaining to domestic staff, have come to notice. Of these, 95 had been repatriated as of July 6, 1992 and 38 still await repatiriation as of that date. Upon representation from the Indian Embassy, Kuwait Government has agreed to repatriate at their cost domestic staff who have sought shelter in the Embassy. A centre has also been set up by Kuwait for such persons awaiting repatriation. On the Indian side, the procedures for emigration clearance are designed to prevent to exploitation of Indian domestic staff abroad.

भारतीय पुलिस को श्रीलंका में प्रवेश की अनुमति देने से इंकार किया जाना

186. श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर :क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि श्रीलंका सरकार ने राजीव गांधी हत्याकांड और लिट्टे की गतिविधियों की जांच करने के लिए भारतीय पुलिस को श्रीलंका में प्रवेश की अनुमति नहीं दी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ;

(ग) क्या भारत सरकार श्रीलंका में भारतीय पुलिस के प्रवेश के संबंध में श्रीलंका सरकार से पुन: बातचीत करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर०एल० भाटिया) : (क) से (घ) भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री श्री राजीव गांधी की हत्या की छानबीन कर रहे भारतीय अधिकारियों को दी गई सहायता के एक अंग के रूप में श्रीलंका की सरकार ने छानबीन कर रहे अधिकारियों को श्रीलंका में आने की अनुमति दी है। तथापि, 28 जून, 1992 को श्रीलंका की सरकार ने हत्या के मामले में प्रमुख अभियुक्त के प्रत्यापण के मामले पर श्रीलंका के अधिकारियों के साथ बातचीत करने के लिए केन्द्रीय आसूचना ब्यूरो के वकील की प्रस्तावित यात्रा को स्वीकृति नहीं दी। सरकार ने श्रीलंका की सरकार के इस निर्णय पर खेद व्यक्त किया है।

Settlement of Border Dispute with China

187. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the steps taken to settle the border dispute between India and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): Government has intensified efforts to find an early, fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question, through peaceful negotiations with China. The India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) on the roundary queston was set up following the visit of the then Prime

Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to China in December 1988. In addition to discussing proposals for a boundary settlement, the JWG also discusses measures for maintaining peace and tranquility and for confidence building in border areas. The JWG has held four meetings so far. At the last meeting in New Delhi in February, 1992, agreement was reached on holding of regular meetings of border personnel of the two countries and the setting up of telephone communication links at border points. Views were exchaged on confidence-building measures along the Line of Actual Control and these will be reviewed at the next meeting of the JWG to be held in Beijing this year. The two sides are currently engaged in defining parameteres for a boundary settlement an dexploring how differences can be narrowed so that a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution is achieved.

Code of conduct drawn up on diplomats by Pakistan

188. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Code of Conduct drawn up by Pakistan was handed over to the Indian High Commissioner in Islamabad recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are examining the Code of Conduct handed over by Pakistan;

(d) whether it is a fact that Indian Diplomats are not allowed to travel any where in Pakistan without prior permission from Pak foreign office and this restriction applies only to Indian Diplomate; and

(e) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pakistan's proposal regarding a Code of Conduct for diplomats was received in June, 1992 and to which we shall soon be sending a response.

(d) In terms of existing Government of Pakistan regulations, all diplomats, including Indian diplomats, are required to take prior written permission before under a journey outside Islamabad/Rawalpindi and Kerachi.

(e) Government takes all factors into consideration in formulating its approach on the question of regulations governing Pakistani and Indian diplomats in New Delhi and Islamabad respectively.

Protest lodged against torture of Indian diplomate in Islamabad

189. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of the protest lodged by Government with Pakistan against the torture of Indian diplomat Shri Mittal in Islamabad in the last week of May, 1992; and

(b) what measures Government have taken for the safety and security of Indian diplomats and their families in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government expect that as a result of protests lodged by Government of India the Government of Pakistan will fulfil its commitments under the relevant international Conventions on diplomatic privileges and immunities.

(b) In terms of these Conventions, the responsibility of ensuring the safety of diplomatic missions and Personnel lies with the host Government. We have